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Volume 19, Number 16

THE CELINA DEMOCRAT

Established May 9, 1895.

Entered at the Celina, Ohio, post-office as second-class mail matter.

C. C. Carlin, Publisher

Celina, Ohio, August 2, 1912

One paper in the home is worth a dozen in the by-way. THE DEMOCRAT IS THE HOME PAPER OF Mercer County.

FARMERS GOT ONTO THE GAME

And There Was About as Much Harmony as Taft and Teddy Enjoyed at Chicago.

A meeting of farmers living on the south side of Lake Mercer and along Beaver called here last Saturday in an endeavor to compromise matters between interested land owners and the Auglaize Power Company, proved an indignation meeting instead of a harmonious one. Assistant Attorney-General McGee called the meeting at the instigation, it seems, of Congressman T. T. Ansberry.

About one hundred farmers, some of whom have at present eighty-acre fields of corn under water, assembled at the court room expecting to meet the Attorney-General, the Board of Public Works and members of the power company. When instead the only person to show up was Prosecutor Sutphen, of Detroit, one of the power company's attorneys, they became very indignant.

Mr. Sutphen said he did not know what he was sent here for, and this declaration, followed by address by Speaker Vining and ex-Congressman Touvelle, in which they stated it was a scheme to gain knowledge to be placed before the State Board at a meeting on August 13, aroused the farmers and they surrounded the visitor, and it was some time before they could be quieted. The move of the power company to compromise or whatever it may have been came at a very inopportune time, because of the unusual height of the water in Lake Mercer and only a few days following a secret visit here of J. M. Ashley, head of the million-dollar syndicate, and J. S. Staats, member of the Board of Public Works. It is now expected that several hundred farmers will attend the hearing before the State Board.

MISSOURI TO WRESTLE WITH SINGLE TAX

"After 1914 there shall be no taxes on personal property, no poll tax, no license on merchant, manufacturers or upon any occupation that does not require police regulation. In 1914 improvements upon land shall be exempt from taxation to the extent of one-fourth of their value and an additional one-fourth each two years thereafter until, in 1920, all improvements upon land shall be exempt from taxation."

Such is the proposal which the Equitable Taxation League lays before the people of Missouri in the form of a constitutional amendment, to be voted upon next November. The argument is simple: Personal property and improvements upon real estate are the result of individual effort. The possessor acquires them through his personal exertions—or if he inherited them, somebody else acquired them through personal exertion.

Missouri wants people to exert themselves. It wants them to lay by money, put up better dwellings, barns, factories, office buildings, warehouses. It should encourage them to add as much as possible to the state's total wealth through their own efforts. Hence it should not tax the fruit of such effort.

And revenue—when these things are exempt from taxation? Why, it will be raised by levying all taxes upon land values, exclusive of improvements. Nobody made the land. Bountiful Nature provided it. And land values, exclusive of improvements, result from the increase of population rather than from anybody's individual effort. A certain plot of ground, vacant and unproductive, is worth a million dollars in the market simply because half a million people live close to it.

That is what the sponsors of Missouri's constitutional amendment propose to tax. The Taxation League's proposal involves something of a revolution, and the time allowed for carrying it into effect may be rather short. A very big and complex vested interest has been built up on the "unearned increment" in city real estate. To unbuild it without disaster needs much care and patience. Saturday Evening Post.

But the only interests which this Missouri amendment proposes to unbuild is one that is causing disaster to all other interests. The Missouri land owner who is putting his land to good use will derive a great and immediate benefit from the change. He will be relieved of burdensome taxes on his improvements and personal property. There will be a corresponding increase on franchises of monopolistic corporations and on values of lands withheld from use.

The interests which derive profit from obstruction of industry and from levying of tribute on producers can easily be dispensed with with no more disaster than would result from complete elimination of any other form of robbery. It is absurd to urge caution in assuring to industry and enterprise the full reward of their efforts, less vested interests built on wrongful appropriation of such rewards may suffer. Yet it is with such an absurdity that the Saturday Evening Post warns what is otherwise an able and thoughtful editorial.

Official Ballot for Special Election on September 3

On another page of this issue of THE DEMOCRAT will be found a facsimile of the official ballot to be presented to the voters of Ohio at the special election to be held on Tuesday, September 3, to vote upon the proposed amendments to the State Constitution.

Next week THE DEMOCRAT will carry a four-page supplement with the full text and a brief explanation of every one of the forty-two amendments the voters are called upon to consider and render judgment.

It is your business, fellow citizen, to read them, to examine their merits from every angle, and vote as your judgment dictates. Yours is the final say, and this acknowledgment of the combined wisdom of the people should cause you to act with care and an eye singly for the common good of all.

WORK OF A DEGENERATE

Personal Liberty Poison Given to Little Five-Year-Old Child—Bad State of Affairs

Mrs. O. M. Houser was arrested by Marshal Humphrey last Saturday morning, on an affidavit filed by Humane Officer Night, charging her with furnishing intoxicating liquor to a minor, Gladys May Volan, aged 5 years, on July 24th.

The child is a sister-in-law of Mrs. F. H. Merica, and is staying at the Merica home here.

It was during the investigation into the disappearance from home of Mr. and Mrs. Merica's five-year-old daughter that the officers learned that the Houser woman had given the child liquor in a rear room of a South Main street place.

Mrs. Houser pled guilty when arraigned before Justice Myers and was fined \$100 and costs, amounting in all to over \$150. Money to pay the bill was furnished by a West Fayette street woman, whose name the officers refused to divulge.

The arrest of the Houser woman has placed the officers in possession of some surprising evidence, which may result in sensational arrests within the next couple of weeks.

Celina Lad Makes Their Eyes Bulge

A special dispatch from Columbus to the Cincinnati Enquirer of Wednesday has the following to say of the meteoric career of a former Celina boy, a son of Judge S. A. Armstrong, at the capital city. That he became a high roller at the expense of some very wise people is self-evident. The dispatch says:

"Little fish were scooped by John R. Armstrong, of this city, son of Circuit Judge Armstrong, of Lima, who today filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy in the United States Circuit Court, with liabilities of \$161,798.70, and assets nothing. He is not more than 25 years old, and lost his money in real estate and hotel deals."

Two of the biggest fish that Armstrong pulled into his boat, if his petition is true, were former Congressman C. H. Grosvenor, of Athens, caught for \$15,000, and Humphrey Jones, member of the Constitutional Convention and Fayette County banker, for \$40,000. He is the largest of them.

The petition was filed by his wife, Armstrong is said to be in Cleveland. He was for a time engaged in the real estate business with his brother here. How he was able to convince hard-headed business men to loan him the sums of money he mentions no one seems to know. He has been connected with several large transactions. He recently contracted for the purchase of the Denison Hotel, but failed to fulfill and was sued for forfeit of contract.

To Rev. W. H. Lewis, the petition says there is due about \$32,000. Mr. Lewis says the amount is not as large, and that he is secured by others.

Mr. Armstrong traveled in high society, had an automobile, and displayed much surplus cash.

John R. Lewis says that all his property is now compromised in household goods which are worth only \$300, and which he claims are exempt from attachment by creditors under the bankruptcy laws.

PROBATE COURT MATTERS

Charles Rice appointed and qualified as guardian of Ruth Rice and minors. Geo. A. Plank, executor of Lewis Plank, deceased, filed account of final distribution. In the matter of the estate of Simon P. Young, deceased, inventory and appraisal filed. W. H. Lookamp, administrator of Frank Sunderhaus, deceased, filed petition for final estate. For hearing August 28. John K. Hoying appointed and qualified as administrator of Ida Hoying, deceased. Inventory and appraisal filed July 29. Recorded minister's license of Rev. Geo. Elmer Smith.

W. E. Condit appointed guardian of Benjamin Hatch, a minor.

LUTHERAN CHURCH SERVICES

Rev. Rits announces the following services for his congregation next Sunday: College Sunday-school at 9:45 a.m.; English service 10 a.m. There will be a short business meeting of the congregation directly after the service. All members should be present. Hopewell township Sunday-school at 9 a.m.; English service at 9:30 a.m. A business meeting of the congregation will be held directly after service. All are invited to attend.

CLOSE IN HEELS OF MERICA GIRL

Officers Seem Confident Locating Her—Damp Botts Arrested in Connection With Affair.

A Hartford City (Ind.) special of Tuesday has the following to say of a recent episode that had its beginning in this city, brief mention of the girl in the case being recorded in The Democrat last week:

George (Damp) Botts, an amateur prize fighter of Montpelier, is in jail here. A makeshift charge of associating has been filed against him pending an investigation of the disappearance from her home in Celina, Ohio, of fifteen-year-old Marie Merica, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Merica, who has been absent from home for two weeks.

The father who has been conducting a search for his daughter, traced the girl to Montpelier and then to this city where it was learned she had been seen in company with Botts. The officers visited the resorts on the Southside, but no trace was found of the girl there. Botts may face a more serious charge following the finding of the girl and the revelation of her story.

Botts was arrested at Montpelier by Marshal Hudson. He was arraigned in Mayor Sweetgar's court Monday morning and was fined \$1 and costs and sentenced to jail for ten days.

The father of the girl, who preferred the charge, returned home Monday. Officers searched the resorts at Montpelier also in the belief that the girl might have gone there. There is another girl from Celina in one of the Montpelier houses and the officers were informed that the Merica girl was there also. However, when a search was made for her she could not be found. It is said that if it develops that the girl was lured from her home for immoral purposes a "white slave" charge will be filed against the procurer.

The Montpelier officers were here Monday night in a search for the girl but failed to locate her, to take her away with them. It is stated, however, that officers have a line on the girl today and that the Montpelier officers soon will have her in custody. Her story may mean serious charges against Botts, and possibly against others.

Botts will be remembered here as one of the amateur prize-fighters, who entered the ring here at the contests given in the Fourth of July. It was while in training here that he met the Merica girl.

McKim's Picture Turned to the Wall

Jeweler John W. McKim has been appointed postmaster of the Celina office to succeed Charles A. McKim, who completed his third term in May this year.

Mr. McKim's name was sent to the Senate by President Taft for confirmation last Friday. It will possibly be sixty days before the usual formalities will permit the new appointee to take the office.

Mr. McKim's lease on the plum got away from him within the last year when a fall out came between the Republican ring leaders. This was followed by a fight for control of the County Central and Executive committees in which McKim lost out.

More Rain, Wind and Damage by Lightning

Another heavy rain and windstorm struck this city and part of the county last Tuesday afternoon and evening, the afternoon storm being accompanied by a heavy hail down-pour. The usual heavy lightning display, which has attended the storms this summer, was again in evidence and as a result several houses at Ft. Recovery were damaged and the large new barn on the Geo. Stegeman farm was struck and burned to the ground, together with its entire contents.

The entire hay and wheat crop, some stock and farm machinery made up the contents. The barn is occupied by Andrew Orlinger. His loss is fully covered by insurance. Mr. Stegeman suffered a similar loss by fire and lightning two years ago.

Young Lad Electrocuted at Ft. Recovery

[Rt. Recovery Tribune, August 1.]

Wm. Bringer, 15-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Bringer, near this town, while standing on the top of the fire escape at the Morvilius opera house, Saturday night about eleven o'clock, reached up and grabbed one of the electric wires that ran along the building and received such powerful voltage into his body that he died almost instantly. It is thought that the insulation was defective. The deadly electric current was turned off immediately, but a companion had grabbed hold of his coat and pulled him loose from the wire before the plant was shut down.

He was in town with his father, who became almost frantic when he realized that his son was dead.

It was, no doubt, a boyish prank, because he had to lean over the railing and reach some four or five feet to touch the wire through which the current passed to furnish commercial lighting. The wire carried about 2,200 volts. A number of other boys his own age were with him and were horrified at the terrible accident.

It caused a great sensation in town and the street at that point was soon crowded with people.

Funeral services were held at 2:30 p. m. Monday from the Christian Church, conducted by Rev. Lusk.

Much sympathy was extended to Mr. and Mrs. Bringer in their sad affliction. This was the ninth child of Mr. Bringer to pass beyond, and the second within a year.

He leaves to mourn his death besides his parents four sisters and six brothers and several step brothers and sisters.

A Bargain for Some Better Half

The Democrat has a brand new Champion Sewing Machine, just from the factory, that can be bought at a bargain. Modern, high grade and a beauty.

THE GRIM REAPER

William Dyert, a well known Rockford citizen, died suddenly last Monday afternoon of apoplexy. Deceased was 45 years of age, a son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Dyert. He was born near Rockford and for a number of years has been in the livery business in that city.

He is survived by his wife, two children, his parents and three brothers—Henry and Harry, of Rockford, and Freeman, of Paulding. Funeral services were held from his late home yesterday afternoon.

Theodore Evers, aged 67 years, a well-known and life long resident of the south part of the county, died at the home of his son Benjamin, at St. Rose, last Monday night, as the result of a tumorous growth from which he has been suffering for years. Besides the son above mentioned 3 daughters survive—Messdams Jos. Reichert, Theodore Evers, and A. J. Feldhake and Frank Holtheide, all residents of the south part of the county.

Andrew Leistner, a well known resident of the northwest end of the county, died at his home at Rockford last Saturday morning, at the age of 39 years. Death was due to heart trouble. He spent most of his life on a farm near Chattanooga, moving to Van Wert three years ago. Last spring he returned to this county, settling at Rockford. He is survived by his wife and two brothers, Sebastian and John Leistner, both residing near Chattanooga. Deceased was brother-in-law of George P. W. Leitsch, and Mrs. H. J. Cordier, both of this city. Funeral services were held at the Rockford U. B. Church last Monday afternoon.

CENTER SELECTS TEACHING CORPS

The Center township district board of education completed the corps of teachers at their meeting last Saturday evening. They are as follows: Superintendent—Earl E. Garwick. Principal—Miss Myrtle Kinney. Grammar grade, Neptune—B. Frank Lutz. Primary grade, Neptune—Miss Cecile Carroll.

District No. 1, Mt. Hope—Miss Mae Fast. District No. 2, Plank Road—H. W. Foss.

District No. 3, Kiser—Robert Loree. District No. 4, Piper—Miss Jessie Piper. District No. 5, Adams—Paul Piper.

District No. 6, Center—Ethel Davis. District No. 8, Beougher—Edith Fisher. District No. 9, Pleasant View—Minnie Kruger.

District No. 10, Elm Grove—William Carroll.

Supt. Garwick is now beginning on his third year as superintendent, and this in itself speaks well for his work.

Miss Kinney comes highly recommended, as she is a graduate of the Ohio Wesleyan, with the degree of A. B. in 1911; also with experience as principal at Rittman, O. She is at present taking normal work in the summer school at Wooster.

Four new teachers are added this year: Misses Davis and Piper and Messrs. Loree and Piper. The remainder are of the "old guard" and are sure to make good.

I believe we are entering upon a prosperous year in school affairs and urge the hearty co-operation of parents that this may be so.

There will be a union meeting of teachers, board of education and patrons during the last week in August. Look it up and be sure to attend.—H. S. Lewis, Clerk B. of E., Center District.

The Ohio State Fair

If yield per acre is increased the soil is not wearing out. Barn yard manure is as much a necessity as college diplomas and edged tools. The Ohio State Fair is one institution to which all citizens should be contributors.

It will help the farmer to better himself in school affairs and urge the hearty co-operation of parents that this may be so.

Every person who has attended this Big Exposition is a walking bill-board in testimony that it is a good investment to spend money seeing it.

Thousands of dollars have been expended in 1912, to make the grounds more beautiful and the buildings larger.

Weeks before the fair opens available space for exhibits is crowded. Hundreds of farmers who want to purchase a good breeding animal visit the fair looking for a bargain and value received.

Amusements and entertainments will not be lacking, either in quality or abundance.

Many new and interesting features will this year be provided for the ladies. Railway service will be improved.

A trip to the State Fair combines pleasure with business. From reports received, twice as many boys will be permitted to attend. Fathers have come to realize that the boy should be taken into partnership in pleasure trips as well as in the hard work of the field.

Owners of good animals and articles should not hesitate to become exhibitors. The advertising is worth all the trip costs.

Entries in live stock close August 10th. Other entries, except speed, close August 17th.

For catalog and information write the Secretary at Columbus.

Call and Get a Premium Visit

Premium lists for two 1912-1913 fair are now in the hands of Secretary Vining for distribution and can be had by calling at his office. The Democrat also has a copy of the premium lists for distribution. Call and get one, look it over, and join the exhibitors.

Small Farm for Sale or Trade

Have 40-acre improved farm I will sell, or will trade on sixty or seventy acre farm. Inquire for particulars, can be obtained by mail. Four miles west on Mt. Hope and one-quarter mile north.

Treatment of Sprains

Sprains are usually bandaged and left to take themselves out. This is really barbaric. In fact, it can be obtained by mail. Thoroughly rubbing in Hanford's Balm of Myrrh. It will soothe and take the soreness out.

ONE FINAL GOUGE OF THE PEOPLE

Planned by the Tariff-Fed Trusts Before They Are Kicked by the Democratic Bird.

[B. C. H. Tavenner.]

Washington, July 29.—[Special correspondence]—Face to face with the realization that a Democratic administration is coming into control of the government, and knowing that this will mean the end of the tariff protection privilege under which they have plundered the people for nearly a score of years, the tariff trusts have let it be known that a rise in the prices of their commodities may be expected this fall. These trusts are determined to take one final gouge into the pockets of the people before they are pushed away from the trough of special privilege at which they have been growing fat.

The leather trust, which is owned by the Chicago leather trust, has announced that the price of leather to be increased 20 per cent. This will mean a corresponding increase in the price of shoes. This trust attributes the necessity for increasing price to the growing demand of the automobile makers for leather. This demand is greater now than it has been for the last three or four years, and those who are familiar with the leather situation say the excuse is only a subterfuge.

The cloth manufacturers also have announced that an increase in clothing of from 5 to 15 cents a yard will be put into effect this fall. The cloth manufacturers which means the woolen trust say there is going to be a big shortage in wool, not only in this country, but in other wool producing countries as well, and that labor costs more than formerly.

As to this latter contention, the wool trust recalled that immediately after the Lawrence, Mass., strike last winter the woolen trust raised the prices on all their goods, giving the increased cost of labor as the excuse. At that time it was figured out by men who are familiar with the clothing business that the last increase in prices was sufficient not only to meet the increased cost of labor, but to pay for the losses caused by the strike, as well, with enough margin left over to insure the trust a largely increased profit.

After the wool trust raised the price on cloth last spring the market value of its stock increased, and at no time has there been a falling off in the dividends paid to the owners of the heavily over-capitalized.

(Continued on eighth page.)

Final Week Chautauqua

The Man Who Pointed the Way in Kansas in Celina To-Night—Big Doings Coming Week.

Gov. Hoch of Kansas is on the Chautauqua program to-night. He is a progressive who progresses, and his address will be a feature no one can afford to miss. The week's program follows:

Saturday, August 3—9 a. m., School work begins. 9:30 a. m., Monologue, Miss Nell Atkinson. "A Set of Turpitudes."

10 a. m., Chautauqua Chorus. 11 a. m., Musical Prelude. 11:30 a. m., Lecture by Dr. King, "You and Your Soul."

9 p. m., Moving Pictures. Sunday, August 4—10:30 a. m., Musical Prelude. 11 a. m., Dr. Byron W. King, "View From Mountain Tops."

11:30 a. m., Sacred Musical Program, the Portland Newhall Concert Co. and Bell Singers. 12:30 p. m., Lecture by Dr. King, "Voices from the Darkness."

1:30 p. m., Musical Program by the Portland Newhall Concert Co. and Bell Singers. Monday, August 5—9 a. m., School and Domestic Science. 9:30 a. m., School of Oratory. Teachers' Institute, J. H. Barnett, chairman.

Byron W. King, C. J. Biery, Mrs. A. Bricker, Mrs. Katharine Gebhart, instructors. The institute continues in session each evening at 7:30 o'clock. Admission 90 cents. Not given here in detail. All are welcome.

9:30 a. m., Musical Prelude. 10:30 a. m., Entertainment by Miss Nell Atkinson, "Voices of the Southland."

11 a. m., Chautauqua Chorus. 11:30 a. m., Musical Prelude. 12:30 p. m., Lecture by Byron W. King, "The Speeches and How They Made Them."

9 p. m., Moving Pictures. Tuesday, August 6—9 a. m., School work begins. 9:30 a. m., Musical Program by the Forest Quartette.

10:30 a. m., Lecture on "Bee Culture," by A. I. Root, of Medina. 11 a. m., Chautauqua Chorus. 11:30 a. m., The Forest Quartette. Humorous Lecture by Strickland W. Gilliam.

9:30 a. m., Moving Pictures. Wednesday, August 7—9 a. m., School work begins in School of Domestic Science, Institute, King's School and Demonstration of Scientific Bee Culture.

9:30 a. m., Concert by the Forest Quartette. 10:30 a. m., Lecture by Mr. Root. 11 a. m., Chautauqua Chorus. 11:30 a. m., Musical Prelude. 12:30 p. m., Lecture on Bee Culture, by Mr. Root.

9 p. m., Moving Pictures. Thursday, August 8—9 a. m., School and Institute Work. 9:30 a. m., Musical Prelude. 10:30 a. m., Lecture by Dr. King, "Sketches of Life."

11 a. m., Chautauqua Chorus. 11:30 a. m., Musical Entertainment, "The Chorus Carnival."

9 p. m., Moving Pictures. Friday, August 9—9 a. m., School work begins. 9:30 a. m., Humorous Prelude. 10:30 a. m., Lecture on Bee Culture, members of the Bee Club. Grand Opera Concert Co. (Madam La Brua does not appear in the afternoon matinee program.)

10:30 a. m., Moving Pictures. 11 a. m., Chautauqua Chorus. 11:30 a. m., Musical Prelude. 12:30 p. m., Concert by the Forest Quartette.

9 p. m., Moving Pictures. Saturday, August 10—10:30 a. m., Sacred Musical Program. 11 a. m., Lecture, "On Horseback Through the Holy Land," by Dr. Lester C. Randolph.

12:30 p. m., Sacred Musical Program. 1:30 p. m., Lecture by Judge Frank P. Sadler, of Chicago, "The Criminal in the Making."

7:30 p. m., Sacred Cantata, "Both the Glorious and the Tragical," Chorus and soloists: Mrs. Cora W. Huggins directing.

Monday, August 12—Breaking Camp.

Budget Commission Finishes Its Labors

The budget commissioners completed the annual adjustment of the rates of taxation yesterday. Under the Smith one per cent limitation law, the levy made on all taxable property, the maximum rate of taxation in any taxing district shall not exceed the rate of ten mills on taxable property therein, except to the amount of such levies as may be made for interest and sinking fund purposes, and such additional levies as may be authorized by the vote of the people.

The aggregate of all taxes that may be levied for county purposes shall not exceed in any one year 3 mills; by a municipal corporation, for municipal purposes, 5 mills; by a township, for all township purposes, 2 mills; for school districts, for school purposes, 5 mills; exclusive of any special levies provided by a vote of the electors, special assessments and levies for road or ditch improvements.

The levy for the State is the same as last year, .451 mills; county, 2.549 mills, or county and state 3 mills, or \$3.00 per thousand valuation; Jefferson township, 1.60 mills; school (Celina special), 4.70 mills, divided as follows: 3, for tuition fund, .90 for contingent fund, .80 for sinking fund and interest; Celina corporation, 1.50 mills for current or running expenses (divided as follows: general fund .45, health .05, service 1.00), 4.20 for interest and sinking fund, a total of 5.70 mills, or \$5.70 per thousand valuation.

FALL FROM CHAIR RESULTS FATALY

Remains Former Ft. Recovery Boy Brought to Early Home of Parents for Burial.

The remains of John C. Porterfield, Jr., a former Ft. Recovery boy, who died suddenly last Saturday night or Sunday morning at DuQuoin, Ill., arrived in this city Tuesday in charge of his business associate and intimate friend, John C. Gibson. The body was taken to the home of his uncle, C. C. Carlin, where it was viewed by a few old-time friends of the Porterfield family until interment Wednesday afternoon.

The deceased was born at Ft. Recovery, December 2, 1883. The family afterward moved to Dayton and then to Columbus, where he spent the most of his life. He was a mining and civil engineer, a graduate of O.S.U., and first followed his profession at Raleigh, W. Va. Shortly after the death of his father at Thermopolis, Wyoming, he went to that state to straighten out some business affairs resulting from his parent's sudden demise, and on his return east a year later stopped at DuQuoin and formed a partnership with Mr. Gibson, a college mate, with offices in that city.

The injury that caused his death was sustained the Thursday previous, and was jokingly passed over by Mr. Porterfield, although stunned for a moment or two. He was sitting in a chair, tilted back, when he overbalanced, and in falling struck the back of his head, resulting in concussion of the brain. He continued his office work, but Saturday complained of a racking headache. Sunday noon the people with whom he lived became alarmed at his non-appearance and on going to his room found him cold in death.

He is survived by his mother, Mrs. Sarah C. Porterfield, of Ft. Recovery, and a brother, Dr. Wm. D. Porterfield, of Carbonhill, this state.

The deceased was a Mason, being a member of the Beckley (W. Va.) lodge, and the local order took charge of his funeral, saying the impressive services of the order at his grave at North Grove Cemetery. Peace to his ashes.

Divorces Keep the Courts from Shutting Up Shop

Clerk of Courts Walter L. Johnson has just completed the report of the judicial statistics of Mercer county for the year ending June 30, 1912.

The report shows that thirty-six suits for divorce, twenty-six charging absence and neglect, while cruelty was the allegation of six complaints and drunkenness was the charge made by four. Of the number of suits filed nine were brought by the husband and twenty-seven by the wife. Thirty-one of the suits filed have been decided and five are still pending.

The total number of civil judgments rendered were one hundred and forty of which twenty-six were for money only.

The total amount of jury fees paid out during the year were \$147.50, of which \$865.00 were grand jury fees; \$558.50 fees in civil cases; \$48 in criminal cases.

During the year one person was convicted and fined for assault with intent to kill, assault and battery and one for robbery.

During the year six inquests were held, one suicide, one accident, four cause of death unknown.

The report shows sixty-one cases pending July 1, 1911, and two hundred and one cases filed during the year ending June 30, 1912. Of these two hundred and twenty were disposed of, three carried to higher court and thirty-nine more still pending. In circuit court two were pending July 1, 1911, five were filed during the year ending June 30, 1912, and all were disposed of. One person was naturalized during the year.

Marriage Licenses Issued

Clarence O. Grogg, aged 22, Jefferson township, farmer, son of Wm. Grogg, and